

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /056 W

----- 001112

R 261205Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2590

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 24003

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MMOL, PFOR, TH, US

SUBJ: U.S. RESIDUAL ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND: SIGNATURE OF  
CHIANG MAI AND OTHER AGREEMENTS

REF: STATE 207960

1. THE AMBASSADOR, ACCOMPANIED BY DCM BURKE, MET WITH NITHIPHAT CHALICHAN, SECRETARY GENERAL TO THE PRIME MINISTER, TODAY AND ADISCUSSSED WITH HIM THE PROBLEM OF SIGNING THE AGREEMENTS WHICH ARE BEING REACHED WITH THAILAND ON THE AIT, ICS AND THE CHIANG MAI STATION.

2. THE AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED THAT THE THAI AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS WERE VERY CLOSE TO REACHING AN AGREEMENT ON THE CHIANG MAI STATION AND ON THE ICS, BUT THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON THE AIT WERE LESS FAR ADVANCED. NEVERTHELESS, IT SEEMED DESIRABLE TO BEGIN TO CONSIDER HOW BEST TO SIGN WHAT WERE IN EFFECT CONTRACTS BETWEEN VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE USG AND THE THAI ARMED FORCES. THE AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT THE AGREEMENTS WERE BASICALLY WORKING LEVEL UNDERSTNADINGS AND SUGGESTED CASE OF CHIANG MAI) AND THE APPROPRIATE THAI MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE. HE STATED CANDIDLY THAT HE DID NOT WISH TO CREATE A SITUATION WHICH MIGHT LEAD THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO CONCLUDE THAT THE EMBASSY WAS CONSPIRING WITH THE THAI MILITARY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THESE WOULD NOT BE AGREEMENTS OF  
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MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONSEQUENCE. THE AMBASSADOR

ASKED NITHIPHAT FOR HIS VIEWS.

3. NITHIPHAT STATED THAT HE HAD BELIEVED THAT AN OVERALL AGREEMENT SHOULD BE SIGNED BY THE EMBASSY WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WHICH WOULD VALIDATE THE TECHNICAL LEVEL AGREEMENTS REACHED BETWEEN THE MILITARY SERVICES. HE NOTED WRYL Y THAT HE HAD BEEN THE BROKER BETWEEN THE MFA AND SUPREME COMMAND WITH REGARD TO THE AIT AND THAT THE MFA WAS ANXIOUS TO BE INCLUDED IN ANY AGREEMENT WHILE, AT THE SAME TIME, SUPREME COMMADN WAS CONVINCED OF MFA'S INABILITY TO KEEP A SECRET. NITHIPHAT SAID HE DID NOT DISAGREE WITH THE POINTS MADE BY THE AMBASSADOR AND THAT HE WOULD MENTION THE PROBLEM TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND OBTAIN HIS VIEWS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 26 AUG 1976  
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**TAGS:** MMOL, PFOR, MARR, TH, US  
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